

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons:

1. Objection to Claims 65 and 103

This objection has been addressed by amending claim 65 to consistently recite the –dynamo-electric unit–, and by amending claim 103 to recite –an intermediate– rather than “and intermediate,” as suggested by the Examiner in item 3 on page 3 of the Official Action.

2. Objection to Claim 138

This objection has been addressed by canceling claim 138.

3. Rejection of Claims 89-92, 107, 133, and 135-137 Under 35 USC §112, 2nd Paragraph

This rejection has been addressed by:

- amending claim 89 to delete the second recitation of the transmission mechanism T101;
- amending claim 107 to positively recite the second centrifugal clutch;
- amending claim 133 to positively recite the output clutch; and
- amending claims 135-137 to depend from claim 134 rather than claim 65.

4. Rejection of Claim 89 and 90 Under 35 USC §102(b) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,044,922 (Field)

This rejection has been rendered moot by the amendment of claim 89 to include the limitations of claim 91, indicated as allowable in item 10 on page 5 of the Official Action.

5. New Issues/New Matter/etc.

The above amendments specifically address the objections to the claims and the rejection under 35 USC §112, 2nd Paragraph, and add the allowable subject matter of claim 91 to claim 89, from which claim 91 originally depended.

None of the amendments affects the scope of the claims in a way that would require further consideration or a new search, or involve new matter, and in fact all of the pending claims

recite subject matter indicated as allowable in items 9 and 10 on page 5 of the Official Action.
As a result, entry and consideration of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC



By: BENJAMIN E. URCIA
Registration No. 33,805

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BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 683-0500

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